

What we claim is:

1. A bandwidth control service management apparatus of a network operated by a network offerer and a customer comprising:

a customer interface for accepting, from the customer, an available bandwidth of a premium bandwidth control service demand with a higher priority than a regular bandwidth control service of best effort type,

a network interface for accepting an applied threshold value of the premium bandwidth control service from the network offerer, and

a serviceable bandwidth manager for comparing an available bandwidth of the premium bandwidth control service demand with the applied threshold value to determine whether or not the premium bandwidth control service is available, for notifying the result to the customer through the customer interface, and for demanding that the network should secure a bandwidth in order that the customer who has received the notification of a service permission can start the premium bandwidth control service when the premium bandwidth control service is determined to be available,

the serviceable bandwidth manager notifying a present applied threshold value in response to a collection demand by the network offerer, and adopting a changed applied threshold value for the determination when the network offerer has changed the applied threshold value.

2. The bandwidth control service management apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein a timer manager is provided which monitors an applied time of the premium bandwidth control service received by the customer through the customer interface, and which demands a release of the premium bandwidth control service from the serviceable bandwidth manager, when the applied time has elapsed.

3. The bandwidth control service management apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein a service reservation manager is provided which

reserves and manages a customer whose premium bandwidth control service demand is rejected by the serviceable bandwidth manager, and which notifies to the customer that the premium bandwidth control service becomes available at that time.

- 5 4. The bandwidth control service management apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein an additional rate manager is provided which manages an accounting rate set according to a remaining bandwidth of the premium bandwidth control service and forming an additional rate calculation standard, and which notifies the accounting rate
- 10 corresponding to the remaining bandwidth of the premium bandwidth control service at a time when a service is demanded by the customer to the serviceable bandwidth manager, while the premium bandwidth control service is offered.
5. The bandwidth control service management apparatus as claimed
- 15 in claim 4 wherein when the customer releases the premium bandwidth control service, the additional rate manager changes the accounting rate to a new accounting rate considering the released bandwidth for accounting.